## SAFETEA-LU: Safety, Operations, ITS, Freight, and Other Related Areas of Interest

**NCDOT Traffic Engineering and ITS/IM Conference** 

Wilmington, NC

August 23, 2006

John Sullivan
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation

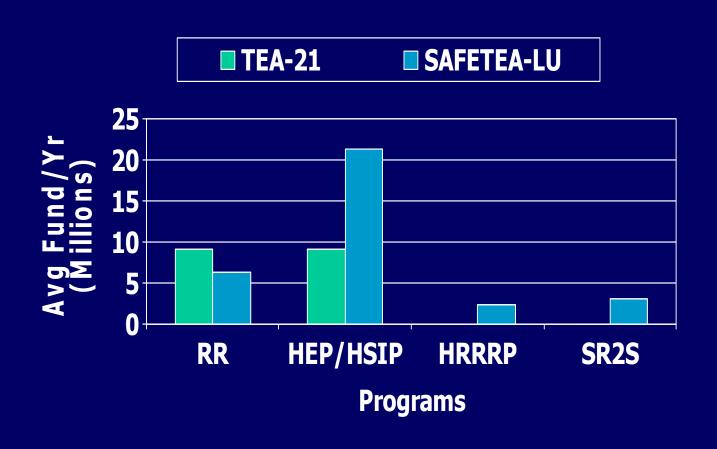
## Agenda

- Safety
- System Management and Operations
- Congestion Management
- Real-Time Information
- ITS
- Freight
- Traffic Analysis Tools

## **Overall Observations**

- New Safety Programs along with increased funding
- System management and operations.
- Significant focus on congestion mitigation, including:
  - Congestion management
  - Real-time information
  - **ITS**
- Strong recognition of importance of freight investment, albeit with significant earmarking.
- Continued support for ITS R&D; ITS Deployment mainstreamed.

# NC Safety Apportionment TEA-21 vs. SAFETEA-LU



## Strategic Highway Safety Plan

- Provides a comprehensive framework for reducing highway fatalities and serious injuries, enabling the State to make data driven strategic investment decisions.
- Required by SAFETEA-LU in order to receive full HSIP funding
- Completion date of October 1, 2006

NC's SHSP is under development and is expected to be completed in advance of the October 1. 2006 deadline.

## System Management and Operations

- ■Transportation Planning (6001)
  - Specific requirement to include "operational and management strategies" in metropolitan transportation plan.
  - Renames CMS as Congestion Management Process and includes specific reference to the need to provide for "effective management and operations" and "implementation of operational management strategies."
  - Specific requirement to include "capital, operations and management strategies investments, procedures, and other measures to ensure the preservation and most efficient use of the existing system," in statewide plans.

Planning regulations issued as NPRM on June 9, 2006; comments are due by Sept 7, 2006. Guidance for Congestion Management Process to be issued shortly

## Moving Toward System Operations

Traditional '0&M'

Regional
Transportation System
Management and
Operations

Jurisdictions/
agencies focusing
on improving
'local' functional
performance.

Traditional outcomes enhanced by a regional systems perspective to achieve regional performance objectives.

Improving regional transportation system performance

# Circle of Decision-making



## Congestion Management

- HOV Facilities (1121)
  - New permitted exceptions to vehicle occupancy requirements:
    - Public transportation vehicles
    - HOT lanes
    - Low emission/energy efficient vehicles
  - Low emission/energy efficient vehicles may be tolled.
  - Requires States to certify that they will monitor operational performance, enforce HOV restrictions, address seriously degraded operations.

## Congestion Management

- Pricing
  - ■Continues Value Pricing Program (1604(a))
    - \$59 million in new funding, including \$12 million for projects not involving tolls.
  - ■New Express Lanes Demonstration Projects (1604(b))
    - Allows tolling of new or existing lanes to reduce congestion and/or improve air quality.
    - 15 projects, no separate funds.
    - DOT to establish interoperability requirement for automatic toll collection.

NPRM on ETC interoperability to be issued in September.

## Congestion Management

- Research
  - Surface Transportation Congestion Relief Solutions (5502)
    - \$36 million over 4 years for research.
    - \$3 million over 4 years for training and technical assistance.
    - Focus on:
      - Congestion measurement and reporting
      - Effective congestion relief strategies
  - Future Strategic Highway Research Program SHRP II (5210)
    - \$205 million over 4 years for research.
    - Managed by National Academy of Sciences.
    - Four focus areas, including:
      - Improving reliability

### Real-Time Information

- Real-Time Systems Management Information Program (1201)
  - Establish capability in all States to provide real time:
    - Sharing of information
    - Monitoring of traffic conditions
  - Purpose ease congestion, improve response to severe weather, accidents, and other incidents; and enhanced security.
  - Eligible for funding under NHS, STP, and CMAQ.
  - Must be part of regional ITS architectures.
  - DOT to establish data exchange standards within 2 years.

Comments for initial program announcement closed in early July.

#### Signs for IH 35 Northbound

Cross Street	Milepost	Current Sign
Southcross (Over Freeway)	152.203	TRAVEL TIME TO US90 UNDER 5 MINS US281 6-8 MINS
Powell (Over Freeway)	154.267	TRAVEL TIME TO US 281 4-6 MINS
Alamo (Lower Level Freeway)	154.933	TRAVEL TIME TO US 281 UNDER 5 MINS
Guadalupe (Upper Level Freeway)	155.190	TRAVEL TIME TO US 281 UNDER 5 MINS
Flores (Lower Level Freeway)	156.536	TRAVEL TIME TO LP 410 SOUTH 7-9 MINS
Main (Upper Level Freeway)	156.771	CONSTRUCTION ON RIGHT SHOULDER US 281 NORTH
McCullough (Lower Level Freeway)	157.021	CONSTRUCTION ON RIGHT SHOULDER US 281 NORTH
New Braunfels (Over Freeway)	158.989	TRAVEL TIME TO LP410S 4-6 MINS WALZEM 7-9 MINS
Salado Creek (Over Freeway)	160.883	TRAVEL TIME TO WALZEM 5-7 MINS LP1604 11-13 MINS
Eisenhauer (Over Freeway)	165.090	TRAVEL TIME TO 410/281 7-9 MINS LP1604 7-9 MINS

# Castastrophic Hurricane Evacuation Plans (10204)

- Requires Report to Congress assessing Gulf Coast State evacuation planning for catastrophic hurricanes.
- Due date specified in SAFETEA-LU October 2006.
- Joint responsibility DOT and DHS.
- FY 2006 Appropriations provided \$1 million to fund study. Report delivered to congress on June 1, 2006.

www.fhwa.dot.gov/reports/
hurricanevacuation/rtc\_chep\_eval.pdf

## ITS

## Deployment Funding

- Mainstreamed throughout Federal-aid program; including high priority projects.
- Eligible under NHS, STP, and CMAQ.
- Categorical NEPA exclusion.
- ITS Deployment funds in 2005 only.
- \$100 million, over 4 years, for CVISN deployment.

### **ITS**

- Research and Development (5301-5310)
  - Program reauthorized and expanded.
  - \$550 million over 5 years
    - Road weather \$20 million (5308)
    - ■I-95 Corridor \$35 million (5211)
    - Rural and Interstate Corridor Communications Study - \$3 million (5507)
  - New advisory committee required.
  - New 5-year program plan required.

## Freight-Related Grant Programs

- Projects of National and Regional Significance (1301)
  - Funds high-cost infrastructure projects.
  - Benefits—economic productivity, international trade, safety, reduced congestion.
  - \$1.8 billion for 25 projects.
- National Corridor Infrastructure Improvement Program (1302)
  - Funds construction of highway projects in corridors of national significance.
  - Focus on international and interregional trade.
  - \$1.9 billion for 33 projects.

## Freight-Related Grant Programs (Con't)

- Intermodal Distribution Pilot Grants (1306)
  - Provides funding to address infrastructure and freight distribution needs at inland ports and intermodal freight facilities.
  - \$30 million for 6 projects.
  - Charlotte Douglas International Airport Freight Intermodal Facility
  - South Piedmont Freight Intermodal Center.

## **Truck Parking Programs**

- Truck Parking Facilities (1305)
  - Pilot program to address CMV long-term parking shortage on NHS.
  - Includes construction of new facilities, modifying existing facilities, ITS.
  - \$25 million discretionary funds.
- Interstate Oasis Program (1310)
  - Identification of "oasis facilities" to provide rest area services off the interstate.
- Idling Reduction Facilities on Interstate ROW (1412)
  - Allows placement of idle reduction facilities in rest areas and charging of fees for use.

Truck Parking Program NPRM to be issued in February and March. Request for information on Interstate Oasis Program schedule to be issued in early February.

# Freight Research and Training

- National Cooperative Freight Transportation Research Program (5209)
  - \$15 million over 4 years
  - Administered by the National Academy of Sciences
  - Broad advisory committee
  - Broad research agenda
- Freight Planning Capacity Building Program (5204h)
  - \$3.5 million over 4 years
  - Goals:
    - Target investments
    - Strengthen decision-making capacity

# Implications of SAFETEA-LU on Operations, ITS, and Freight

- More \$
- Advances system management and operations
- Increases focus on congestion relief
- Creates opportunities
  - Managed lanes
  - Real-time information
  - Interoperability
- Maintains strong ITS R&D program
- Significantly expands attention to freight needs
- Funds congestion-related RD&T



- The number of applications for traffic analysis tools continues to increase
  - Interstate Access Requests
  - Alternative Selection
  - Temporary Traffic Control plan impacts
  - Visualization of Alternatives for Public Involvement meetings
- The number of tools also continues to increase
  - Also provides several guidance documents
  - FHWA provides a Traffic Analysis Tools Workshop

More Information can be found at: www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/trafficanalysistools

### For More Information

**SAFETEA-LU:** 

http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/safetealu

Management and Operations, ITS and Freight: http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/operations

FHWA Office of Safety: http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov